1 Claims:

- 1 1. An apparatus for preventing erosion of wellbore components comprising:
- a wellscreen; and
- a coating disposed on the wellscreen.
- 1 2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the coating is a metal-based coating.
- 1 3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the metal-base coating includes nickel.
- 1 4. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the metal-base coating includes phosphorous.
- 1 5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the coating is an organic-based coating.
- 1 6. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the organic-based coating is a phenolic resin.
- 7. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein a ceramic or cermet is added to the phenolic resin.
- 1 8. The apparatus of claim 1, whereby the coated apparatus losses less mass overtime in a
- 2 wellbore than an apparatus without the coating.
- 1 9. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the mass loss of the apparatus is about 150mg to
- 2 350mg when slurry tested for a six-hour period.
- 1 10. The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the nickel concentration of the coating is from about
- 2 85% to about 95%.
- 1 11. The apparatus of claim 4, where in the phosphorous concentration of the coating is from
- 2 about 5% to about 15%.

- 1 12. A method for fabricating an erosion resistant wellbore component comprising:
- 2 providing a wellbore component; and
- treating the wellbore component with erosion resistant material to reduce the amount of
- 4 mass lost from the wellbore component over time in a wellbore.
- 1 13. The method of claim 12, wherein the erosion resistant material includes a metal-based
- 2 coating.
- 1 14. The method of claim 13, wherein the metal-based coating includes nickel.
- 1 15. The method of claim 13, wherein the metal-based coating includes phosphorous.
- 1 16. The method of claim 12, wherein the treating step is conducted by plating the wellbore
- 2 component.
- 1 17. The method of claim 16, wherein plating is electroless plating.
- 1 18. The method of claim 12, wherein the treating step further comprises a post-plating
- 2 treatment of the wellbore component subsequent to electroless plating.
- 1 19. The method of claim 18, wherein the post-plating treatment includes heating the plated
- 2 wellbore component at a temperature of about 350°F for a period of about three hours.
- 1 20. The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of inserting the treated wellbore
- 2 component into a wellbore.
- 1 21. The method of claim 12, whereby the treatment results in a mass loss of about 150 mg to
- about 350 mg when the component is slurry tested for a six-hour period.
- 1 22. The method of claim 12, wherein the treating results in a wellbore component which,
- when slurry tested will lose no more than 350 mg of mass over a period of six-hours.

- 1 23. The method of claim 14, wherein the nickel concentration is from about 85% to about
- 2 95%.
- 1 24. The method of claim 15, wherein the phosphorous concentration is from about 5% to
- 2 about 15%.
- 1 25. The method of claim 12, wherein the erosion resistant materials include an organic-based
- 2 coating.
- 1 26. The method of claim 25, wherein the organic-based coating is a phenolic resin.
- 1 27. The method of claim 26, wherein ceramics or cermets may be added to the phenolic
- 2 resin.
- 1 28. An apparatus for preventing erosion of wellbore components comprising:
- a wellscreen having a screen portion and a perforated inner tube portion; and
- a coating disposed on the screen portion.
- 1 29. The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the coating includes nickel and phosphorous, and the
- 2 nickel concentration is from about 85% to about 95%, and the phosphorous concentration is
- 3 from about 5% to about 15%.
- 1 30. The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the coating include an organic-based phenolic resin
- 2 containing ceramic or cement.
- 1 31. The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the coating is disposed on the inner tube portion.